

February 27, 1992

36 Executive Resolution #102

University of Colorado  
Student Union

Sponsored by:           Executive                           William Roberts, Jr.  
Authored by:           Executive                           William Roberts, Jr.  
                         Executive Assistant               David Upthegrove

A RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION HISTORY

WHEREAS: Throughout the grand history of our University, the CU administration has, off and on, required students to subsidize the athletic program through a mandatory athletic fee. Regent Bernick said that "for historical background...there was a student athletics fee when he and Regent Betz were students at the University." We know that was a long time ago. In the 1975-76 fiscal year, the student fee contribution to the CU Athletic Department was \$35,000. Following fiscal year 1975-76, the fee was eliminated and did not exist for the following two years (fy 76-77 and fy 78-79.)

WHEREAS: On December 11, 1979, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments took effect. In general, Title IX states that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." In 1978, the University had conducted a self-evaluation to determine if Title IX requirements were being met or to the extent to which corrections needed to be made. "The results of this indicated that additional funding for women's sports was needed, and an increase in the 1979-80 budget for female sports activities was provided." That same year, the Athletic Department ran a \$288,000 budget deficit. The Athletic Department blamed the deficit on low attendance during the 1979 football season. The Student Union blamed the Athletic Director and the Business Manager, claiming they "had neither the fiscal nor management control which is required of each respective position".

WHEREAS: In April 1980, a Special Committee for Review of Finances of the Intercollegiate Athletics Program was convened "(1) to assess the current financial condition of the athletics program with special attention to the impact of funding required to insure compliance with Title IX...(2) to develop options for stabilizing and improving the programs's financial condition including possible sources of support for Title IX requirements with respect to women's athletics, and (3) to bring to the president and

the Board of Regents specific recommendations for dealing with the problems identified." This committee reported a deficit of \$846,000 for the women's program in 1979-80. President Weber stated that "Title IX imposed programmatic obligations that carry current fiscal obligations of about \$500,000." At the May 14, 1980 meeting of this special committee, the committee voted on all of the proposals for a solution to the financial problems. A majority of the committee voted in favor of various minor administrative expenditure reductions. They also voted in favor of various proposals for increases in ticket prices and "a negative student checkoff whereby a \$10 fee would be assessed unless the student indicated otherwise at registration." The Chair of the committee (Regent Anderson) also "explained that there had been three proposals for a direct and mandatory student fee---for \$4, \$7.50, and \$15 a semester--and all failed." University President Weber raised some concerns over the negative checkoff, stating that "the notion of incurring fixed expenditure obligations and balancing them with highly conjectural revenue flows should be reviewed seriously."

**WHEREAS:** The time has come for the mandatory athletic fee to be reviewed seriously. After months of an athletic departmental study, we adamantly take the concerns of the Student Union as well as the Athletic Department at hand. After reviewing the interests of UCSU, the Athletic Department as well as Central Administration, we submit for your consideration the Spring 1992 proposal for the Elimination of the 1980 Mandatory Athletic Title IX Student Fee.

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**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, **THAT:**

**SECTION 1:** UCSU Legislative Council endorses the Spring 1992 Proposal for the Elimination of the 1980 Mandatory Athletic Title IX Student Fee.

**SECTION 2:** The UCSU Executive Branch will assure that the proper lobbying will lead to the possible success of this proposal.

**SECTION 3:** This resolution takes effect upon passage.

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2/27/92 - Pulled